



Policy Name:	ASSAULT PEACE OFFICER		
Policy #:	OP 4.34.4	Last Updated:	2022-06-01
Issued By:	COMMUNITY POLICING BUREAU	Approved By:	SURREY POLICE BOARD
		Review Frequency:	AS REQUIRED

RELATED POLICIES

AD 5.6 *Exposure to Infectious Diseases*

1. PURPOSE

1.1. To ensure proper notification, authorization, and reporting of incidents of assault against Surrey Police Service (SPS) Members.

2. SCOPE

2.1. This policy applies to all SPS Members.

3. POLICY

3.1. When Members are assaulted during their duties, the safety and wellbeing of the Member is paramount. The Inspector, Employee Services Section must be notified of the incident to ensure that the health and welfare of the Member is effectively managed.

3.2. The Duty Officer must be notified of all assaults on a Member. If there is evidence to support a criminal charge of *Assaulting a Peace Officer* (s. 270 (1) *Criminal Code*) or *Assaulting a Peace Officer with Weapon or Causing Bodily Harm* (s. 270.01(1) *Criminal Code* – including intentional contact with infected bodily fluids against a peace officer), the Duty Officer must authorize forwarding the recommended charge to Crown Counsel.

3.3. Where the decision is made to forward a Report to Crown Counsel (RTCC) recommending a criminal charge of assaulting a police officer, the incident must be investigated by a Member other than the victim Member.

4. PROCEDURE

- 4.1. When an assault on a Member has occurred, the Member involved must notify a Supervisor as soon as practicable.
- 4.2. A Supervisor must attend the scene and assign another Member to investigate the incident. The Supervisor will notify the Duty Officer of the events that have occurred.
- 4.3. The Duty Officer must approve recommending a charge under section 270(1) of the *Criminal Code* for *Assaulting a Peace Officer* or a charge under section 270.01 for *Assaulting a Peace Officer with Weapon or Causing Bodily* (including intentional contact with infected bodily fluids against a peace officer).

Injuries to Member

- 4.4. If the Member has received injuries the injuries must be documented by the victim Member and the investigating Member. The injuries must be photographed, preferably by the Lower Mainland District Integrated Forensic Identification Services (LMD IFS) or at minimum by a Member using an SPS-issued camera. If necessary, the Member should be transported to hospital for medical examination and treatment.
- 4.5. The victim Member or Supervisor must complete all necessary WorkSafe BC reporting documenting the Member's injuries and forward the report to the Employee Services Section in a timely manner as required.

Investigation

- 4.6. If the injuries to the Member are minor in nature, the incident may be investigated by another frontline Member. The RTCC must include:
 - i. the circumstances leading up to the Member being assaulted;
 - ii. whether the suspect was being arrested or investigated on another police matter;
 - iii. the amount and type of force used by the suspect and Member;
 - iv. documentation of injuries and any other physical evidence;
 - v. witness statements;
 - vi. photographic and video evidence, if any; and
 - vii. the Duty Officer who approved recommending the charge.
- 4.7. If the Member is the victim of an assault with a weapon or assault causing bodily harm (s. 270.01(1) *Criminal Code*), aggravated assault (s. 270.02 *Criminal Code*) or the suspect attempted to or was successful in disarming the Member (s. 270.1(1) *Criminal Code*), the incident must be investigated by the Major Crime Section. In these incidents the Duty Officer will:
 - i. notify the on-call Major Crime Section Supervisor; and

- ii. as soon as practicable, complete a Serious Incident Briefing Note and forward to the Senior Leadership Team and Strategic Communications Section.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

“Duty Officer” means the Frontline Policing Inspector.

“Member” means a sworn Police Officer appointed by the Surrey Police Board.

"RTCC" means Report to Crown Counsel.

“SPS” means Surrey Police Service.

“Supervisor” means a Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Inspector, Superintendent, Deputy Chief Constable, Chief Constable, and any other person acting in a Supervisory capacity who is accountable for a particular area or shift on behalf of SPS.

APPENDIX B: REFERENCES

Criminal Code, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-46